

LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

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P R O C E E D I N G S

BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, October 23, 1973

10:00 o'clock a.m.

JERRY G. JONES, CHAIRMAN

Wild Life and Fisheries  
Building  
400 Royal Street  
New Orleans, Louisiana

## P R O C E E D I N G S

. . . The regular monthly Board Meeting of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission was held on Tuesday, October 23, 1973, at 10:00 o'clock a.m., at the Wild Life and Fisheries Building, 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, Jerry G. Jones, Chairman, presiding.

### PRESENT WERE:

JERRY G. JONES, Chairman

LLOYD J. AUTIN, Vice-Chairman

J. B. ANGELLE, Director

M. DUPUY, JR., Member

CLAY LUTTRELL, Member

DON WILLE, Member

## A G E N D A

### DR. LYLE ST. AMANT

1. Request of Madison Parish Port, Harbor and Terminal District, Tallulah, Louisiana, to remove approximately 600,000 cubic yards of fill material from the Mississippi River in vicinity of Mile 457.2 AHP in Madison Parish, Louisiana. (3)
2. Request of Larry Doiron Corporation for proposed dredging for fill material in Six Mile Lake at Buoy 7A, in St. Mary (5)

Parish, Louisiana.

HARRY SCHAFER

3. Opening of Calcasieu Lake for <sup>oyster</sup> tonging season. (10)
4. Reopening of Bay Gardene for oyster fishing. (13)

RICHARD K. YANCEY

5. Payment of balance due to Ducks Unlimited - \$35,869.00. (15)
6. Russell Sage Foundation - approval of memorandum of understanding. (17)

ALLAN ENSMINGER

7. Report on alligator season. (21)

JOE HERRING

8. Request from Dow Chemical Company for permission to survey a proposed pipe line route across Sabine Island Refuge. (25)
9. Ratification of rabbit season for Terrebonne Parish. (28)
10. Consideration of bids for Saline and Spring Bayou Headquarters. (29) (54)
11. Discussion of deer seasons. (31)
12. Land lease renewal for Continental Can Company Wildlife Management Area. <sup>in Saline</sup> (46)
13. Ratification of road construction Three Rivers Wildlife Management Area with Highway Department. (48)

- 14. Repairs to Fort Pike boat ramp. (50)
- 15. Timber sale - Bodcau Wildlife Management Area. (51)

MIKE HOGAN

- 16. Consideration of high bid on confiscated alligator skins. (55)

KENNETH SMITH

- 17. Consideration of Lake Bistineau drawdown. (56)

OTHER BUSINESS

- 18. Discussion of November meeting. (59)
- 19. Discussion of December meeting. (59)
- 20. Discussion on possibility of acquiring remainder of Grand Terre Island. (60)
- 21. Statement by Louisiana Wildlife Federation. (63)
- 22. Request Dr. St. Amant to make study and to make a recommendation to the Board regarding the price we receive for fill material. (5)
- 23. Limitation of all new contracts on dredging for fill and sand to be limited to one year until a study can be made. (7)
- 24. Discussion-shooting hours on the hunting of ducks (19)

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DR. LYLE S. ST. AMANT: We have two requests for permits. The first one is for the Madison Parish Port, Harbor and Terminal

District. They request a permit to remove approx. 600,000 cubic yards of fill material at Mile 457.2. This is a standard type permit that will be terminated when the amount of material has been removed and the time limit on it is restrictive. It is my understanding that the Port Commission is going to use this material to improve the port area and it has been examined and it does not effect the interests of the wildlife and fisheries and it meets the requirements set forth by the Commission. I, therefore, suggest that we issue the permit.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MARC DUPUY: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Dupuy. Is there a second?

LLOYD AUTIN: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Autin. Is there any further discussion? Any objection? Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the resoltuion  
is here made a part of the  
record)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to the Madison Port, Harbor & Terminal District to remove approximately

600,000 cubic yards of fill material from the Mississippi River at approximately Mile 457.2 AHP, in Madison Parish, Louisiana, within the period of one year from the date of this Resolution, October 23, 1973. Permit subject to renewal if granted by the Commission, on October 23, 1974.

LYLE S. ST. AMANT: The second item is a request for a permit by Mr. Larry Doiron Corp. to dredge in the vicinity of Buoy 7A in Six Mile Lake, St. Mary Parish. Now, I spoke to Mr. Doiron several times about this. I had Jack Collins check it out and it apparently will have no effect on the interests of wildlife and fisheries and it is a source of fill material that was recently put in there during the high water. Mr. Doiron is asking for a permit and it meets the requirements set forth by the Commission. I understand that some question about the period of this permit and-- Am I clear on that; is there a question about this?

THE CHAIRMAN: I think, Lyle, the question was his request did not designate how much material he wanted nor the time limit for the permit and I think there was a suggestion that we would put a one year limitation. What would be your position?

LYLE S. ST. AMANT: Well, Jerry, the normal procedure is in the case of the Port Commission. They only need 600,000 yards to carry out their work and at that time the permit would

terminate. Now, a person requesting a permit to go into the business of sand and gravel or sand, dredging and sales generally gets the standard permit that runs 5 years and at the end of 5 years, he has an option to renew if he wants to continue the business and, however, we can and do issue one year permits if a man asks for one for that period or if the Commission so desires. It's a very simple matter to just change it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is there any reason for us to limit?

LYLE S. ST. AMANT: There is no reason to limit this man or every other one we give is for five years. This is the standard permit in a contract form and it has no limit. He can dredge a million yards if he can do it. As long as he pays the royalty on time. If he fails to meet these requirements, of course, then the permit becomes invalid and we try to do something about it.

MARC DUPUY: I would like to make an observation. I believe that fill material and particularly the dredging of sand from the rivers and state-owned waterbottoms is going to become a more and more valuable resource and commodity and my feeling is that maybe 2½ cents a cubic yard--there is a possibility that it may not be an adequate compensation. My feeling is that we might ought to limit this permit to a shorter period

of time than five years and look into the overall situation of perhaps updating and upgrading our policy and our attitude toward the granting of permits.

LYLE S. ST. AMANT: I think this is a good idea but I would like to be directed to limit all new permits to less than five years until a decision is made.

MARC DUPUY: Yes, sir. I think I would agree with you on that too. I would like to suggest that we make a one year limitation and there is no problem in renewing it, if the man wishes to renew it, we can go ahead and do so at that time.

LYLE S. ST. AMANT: All right.

MARC DUPUY: I would so move that we make a one year limitation of this permit.

DON WILLE: I'll second it.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Dupuy and seconded by Mr. Wille. Is there any discussion?

CLAY LUTTRELL: I would like to discuss that, Jerry. Doc, did you suggest that perhaps we might amend this motion to include all new permits you mentioned.

LYLE S. ST. AMANT: Well, I don't know whether you need to amend the motion but I would like a direction from the Commission. I would rather not just do it to one man and we are



going to have new permits coming up next month and if we are going to set a policy of one year until we make a study and decide to check on them.

CLAY LUTTRELL: After this vote is taken, I want to make a remark.

THE CHAIRMAN: OK. Is there any further discussion? Is there any objection? Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the resolution  
is here made a part of the  
record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to the Larry Doiron Corporation to remove sand and/or fill material from Six Mile Lake at Buoy 7-A in St. Mary Parish, Louisiana, this permit to cover a period of one year only from October 23, 1973, to October 23, 1974, and subject to renewal if granted by the Commission.

CLAY LUTTRELL: Mr. Chairman, I would like to move that we empower Dr. St. Amant to include these same conditions on all new contracts.

THE CHAIRMAN: Would you also include in that direction to Dr. St. Amant to make some determination and recommendation to us at some future time when he can do it as to whether or not we

are receiving a sufficient economic return, whether or not we should go up on it.

CLAY LUTTRELL: I think that is very vital that some sort of study be made as to the commercial value per cubic yard of this type material with a recommendation to the board about whether to retain or to increase our royalty.

THE CHAIRMAN: Did the L. S. U. study include fill material? Just shell?

LYLE S. ST. AMANT: No. Fill material is very low. As a matter of fact for years we gave it away and finally someone put a 2½ cent royalty on it but in some areas they are paying much more than that.

THE CHAIRMAN: In a rough figure, what are we getting a year out of fill material. Do you have any idea?

LYLE S. ST. AMANT: I wouldn't want to guess, I'll have to check it.

CLAY LUTTRELL: I would like to include that if I can get a second on it.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Luttrell that future permits of this nature be limited to one year and that Dr. St. Amant will make some type of study and recommendations to the Board regarding the price that we receive for the fill material. The motion is seconded by Mr. Dupuy. Is there any further discussion? Is there any objection. Hearing none, so ordered. Thank you, Lyle.

HARRY SCHAFER: Mr. Chairman, Members, at this time of the year we usually open Calcasieu Lake for tonging of oysters. It is an annual affair. Charlie White and biologists over there have checked the oyster population in Calcasieu Lake and he has found that there is enough oysters to open the season again this year. We would, therefore, recommend that the season be opened in Calcasieu Lake from November 15th through March 31st. It would be during daylight hours only. It will be in Calcasieu Lake with the exception of Calcasieu River, the Ship Channel, East Fork, West Fork and Oyster Bayou. The 3 inch culling law will be observed, the harvest will be limited to 15 sacks per boat per day and the home consumption will be limited to 2 sacks per day and that all the proper licenses--all people would have to have the proper oyster fishing licenses and we would further recommend that the Director be authorized and empowered to extend or close said season, when biologically sound.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

DON WILLE: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Wille.

CLAY LUTTRELL: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been seconded by Mr. Luttrell. Is there

any discussion? (no response) Any objections? (no response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the

resolution is here made a

part of the record.)

WHEREAS, the Commission biologists and the Chief of the Oysters, Water Bottoms and Seafoods Division have recommended the fishing of the oysters of Calcasieu Lake including the West Cove area with the exception of the Calcasieu River and Ship Channel, East Fork, West Fork and Oyster Bayou, and

WHEREAS, the State Department of Health has examined the growing oysters of this afore mentioned area and approved the waters for fishing oysters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, at its regular public monthly meeting held in New Orleans, on Tuesday, October 23, 1973, does hereby declare that the Calcasieu Lake Oyster Season for 1973-74 be set in accordance with the following rules and regulations:

- (1) That the oyster season in Calcasieu Lake be fixed to extend from daylight Thursday, November 15, 1973 through sunset, Sunday, March 31, 1974, with the right being reserved to extend said season or close it if

biologically justifiable.

(2) That oyster fishing be limited only to the use of tongs and to day light hours.

(3) The open areas shall be confined to Calcasieu Lake including the West Cove area, with the exception of Calcasieu River and Ship Channel, East Fork, West Fork and Oyster Bayou which shall be closed.

(4) The 3 inch culling law shall be observed by all fishermen fishing the area and the culls shall be scattered around the perimeter of the reefs to provide for expansion and future harvesting.

(5) The taking of oysters shall be limited to 15 sacks per boat per day.

(6) The taking of oysters for home consumption shall be limited to three bushels (two sacks) per boat per day.

(7) All commercial fishing of oysters shall be done only with proper licenses.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director be and is hereby authorized and empowered to extend or close said season, if biologically sound.

HARRY SCHAFER: Mr. Chairman, the second item is to reopen the Bay Gardene Seed Reservation for further harvest. It was open for 15 days earlier and then closed, a reevaluation was made and in the meantime the Federal Government has given Louisiana \$85,000 to plant shells to replenish the seed beds. We will use this money to plant clam shells in the Bay Gardene area in a reserve and we would like to have these oyster fishermen to be able to harvest the remaining oysters in there before we put the shells in. We would like to open this area again starting December 10 for a fifteen day period. We would, also, like to have a permit system this time that they would have to check in at our Bay Gardene facility or here at the office to pick up a permit and check out each time they go. The facility is right on the edge of the seed reservation and, therefore, it shouldn't pose any problem to them.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure.

CLAY LUTTRELL: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Luttrell.

LLOYD AUTIN: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Autin. Is there any further discussion? Any objection? (No response) Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the  
resolution is here made  
a part of the record)

WHEREAS, since federal funds will be available for shell planting on the Bay Gardene Oyster Seed Reservation in the near future, the marine biologists of the Oysters, Water Bottoms and Seafoods Division have recommended this reservation to be reopened for a 15 day period during December, 1973, and

WHEREAS, if the Bay Gardene Oyster Seed Reservation were reopened, it would offer the oyster fishermen an excellent opportunity to obtain oysters.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby open the Bay Gardene Oyster Reservation, on a permit basis, beginning Monday, December 10 and continuing until midnight, December 24, 1973.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following rules and regulations as stipulated on the permits shall be adhered to by the individuals participating in these operations:

1. Permittee must have the permit on the boat at all times while taking oysters in said area.
2. Permittee must have dredging license.
3. Permittee must have tonnage license.
4. Permittee must have an oyster lease for deposit of seed with lease in permittee's name.

When the oyster fishermen depart for the deposition on location, the following regulations are in effect:

1. Special permit cleared at Bay Gardene Camp, and fisherman retains original copy to be utilized if a return trip is desired.
2. Make a determination prior to leaving if load will be bedded (in that case uncultured) or sacked (in that case culled).
3. Statement of lease location, lease number and estimated time of arrival if stock used for seed.
4. There have been no recent shell plants, thus no fishermen shall have more than 5% dead shell without spat.

RICHARD YANCEY: Mr. Chairman, Members of the Commission, the Commission has legislative authority and direction to use 25¢ from each hunting license sold for the purpose of developing and preserving waterfowl breeding ground habitat in Canada and the final tally on the sales of the 1972-73 hunting licenses are in and this amounts to a total of \$85,869.00 and earlier this year the Commission made a \$50,000 advance payment to Ducks Unlimited for the purpose of developing these waterfowl areas in Canada and it would now be in order and timely for the



Commission to make the final payment in the amount of \$35,869.00 for this purpose and we would like to recommend that you authorize the Director to see that this is done.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MARC DUPUY: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Dupuy. Is there a second?

DON WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Wille. Is there any discussion?

(no response) Any objection? (no response) So ordered.

(The full text of the resolution  
is here made a part of the  
record.)

WHEREAS, in accordance with law, R. S. 56:104 E (1), the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has dedicated funds to be granted to Ducks Unlimited, Inc., for the development and preservation of breeding grounds for migratory waterfowl in Canada, and

WHEREAS, these funds will be used to produce ducks and geese that winter in Louisiana, and now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant to Ducks Unlimited, Inc., a sum of \$35,869.00 as balance payment

on the sale of 1972-73 hunting licenses.

RICHARD YANCEY: Secondly, we have been forwarded a draft of the memorandum of understanding that would control the incoming and outgoing revenues from the Marsh Island Fund. This memo was forwarded to us by the Attorney for the Russell Sage Foundation and we all know that the foundation donated this 80,000 acre Marsh Island Refuge to the State back in 1920. The memo of understanding would be signed not only by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission but also by the Registrar of State Lands, the State Treasurer's Office, the Mineral Board, the Governor and the Russell Sage Foundation. It basically is about an 8 or 10 page document and it basically provides that the needs of Marsh Island will be first satisfied from funds in the Marsh Island account and then any money left in that account after the funds, the needs of Marsh Island have been satisfied, would be split into two equal parts. One part would go into the Marsh Island Trust Fund that was established by Legislative Act and the other part could be used for other wildlife projects in Louisiana, such as, the acquisition of lands for game management area purposes. We have carefully reviewed this memo of understanding and we find it is in complete conformance with the two legislative acts that were

adopted; one in 1971 and 1973 and it also has been signed by the Registrar of State Lands and the State Treasurer's Office and we would like to recommend that the Commission authorize the Director to execute this document on behalf of the Board.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

LLOYD AUTIN: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Autin. Is there a second?

CLAY LUTTRELL: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Luttrell. Is there any further discussion? (no response) Any objection? (no response) Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the  
resolution is here made a  
part of the record.)

WHEREAS, a Memorandum of Understanding has been formulated that will specify the procedures under which the State's share of Marsh Island mineral revenues will be handled; and

WHEREAS, this Memorandum conforms with the various statutes enacted by the Louisiana Legislature and also meets with the approval of the Russell-Sage Foundation; and

WHEREAS, this Memorandum of Understanding is to be signed by the Register of the State Land Office, the State Treasurer, the Chairman of the State Mineral Board, the Chairman and President of the Russell-Sage Foundation, the Governor of Louisiana, as well as, the Director of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission; and

WHEREAS, this Memorandum of Understanding will be most helpful in guiding the actions of those who will be involved in handling the State's share of Marsh Island revenues,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mr. J. Burton Angelle, Director of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, is hereby authorized to sign the Memorandum of Understanding and to take whatever steps are necessary to effect the procedures outlined therein.

THE CHAIRMAN: Dick, while you are at the mike, there was a meeting held with the people from the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. Mr. Wille represented the Board and the Director and I think yourself went to Washington regarding the shooting hours that was set by the Bureau for the upcoming duck season. Maybe you want to just give us a little comment on that.

MR. YANCEY: Well, as you pointed out, Mr. Wille arranged for a meeting with the Bureau officials in Washington the

week before last in a ditch effort to try to get the shooting hours on the hunting od ducks changed from sunrise to thirty minutes before sunrise and we had a two-hour session with the Director of the Bureau and Members of his staff and advanced our reasons as to why we felt this would certainly be in order. This will be the first time that the Louisiana duck hunters have ever started shooting at sunrise rather than 30 minutes before sunrise and we feel it has all sorts of disadvantages which we made known to the Bureau people. However, on Monday they forwarded to us a wire which was followed up by a letter, copy of which is before you there which states that they will not and at this time they are refusing to make any change in the shooting hours on the hunting of ducks. It appears at this point that our duck hunters will hunt under shooting hours of sunrise to sunset; while at the same time those that hunt geese and coots will hunt from 30 minutes before sunrise until sunset. We see all sorts of enforcement problems there but they nevertheless did refuse to make this change.

MR. DON WILLE: We did bring that up. Mr. Yancey brought up the fact that we would have enforcement problems and, of course, they came back with the fact that they felt like we would have no enforcement problem whatsoever.

MR. YANCEY: That's right.

MR. WILLE: Of course, they have five federal agents in the State of Louisiana.

THE CHAIRMAN: I think one thing that I personally heard some rumblings throughout the State, such as, "Well, we didn't get what we wanted in Washington and, accordingly, we will just not enforce the law."

I want to make it clear and abundantly clear and I wish the people from the press can pick it up that this Commission intends to enforce the law even though we don't agree with the law, we are going to enforce the law to the best of our ability and it's going to be very difficult to enforce a regulation from sunrise to sunset for a number of reasons but it is our intention to vigorously enforce the law even though we don't agree with it. Am I correct, Mr. Angelle?

MR. ANGELLE: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Dick.

MR. ALLAN ENSMINGER: Mr. Chairman, gentlemen of the Commission, I would like to make a very brief report to you of our experimental alligator season that was just concluded down in Cameron, Vermillion Parish. This season extended from September 10th through the 28th and resulted in the taking of 2,916 alligators

out of the two parishes. These skins were sold shortly after the season closed and brought a total sale price of \$268,542.45. This averaged out to \$13.13 per foot and this is substantially higher than the sale last year which brought about \$8.00 a foot. I think this very vividly points out the commercial value of this renewable natural resource in Louisiana and I think our Commission has done a superb job in pointing to the other southeastern states the fact that the animal can be managed as a renewable resource and one that should be certainly harvested and controlled through a well regulated tagging system such as we have here in Louisiana. We were able to update our procedure for taking this year and ran some real good analysis on the systems used in the past and it is obvious that the system used by trappers in Cameron and Vermillion puts the pressure on the large adult males which are surplus animals in the population by setting the season late in the year. The fishing method that was used to take these animals is also very selective and it does give the females an opportunity to stay back in the marsh away from the canals and they are in attendance at their nests at this time of the year and consequently a majority of males are harvested in this type of program so I think in conclusion that the trappers and people in Cameron Parish were

very well pleased with the season. We had no indication of any violations involved in the parish areas where the season was opened. I would like to recommend that the Commission go on record of being in favor of doing everything possible to continue to have alligator seasons in Louisiana in the future and to work vigorously toward federal and international regulations to permit this operation.

THE CHAIRMAN: OK. Would you rather put that work in favor of federal and international regulations which would not prohibit what we were doing.

MR. ALLAN ENSMINGER: Well, this is exactly right and there is federal legislation pending in Congress now that would control the methods by which Louisiana can harvest or actually could prohibit Louisiana from ever having another season unless these things are amended and worked out to an agreeable basis with the State of Louisiana.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation of Mr. Ensminger. What is your pleasure? Do you want us to continue to work for an alligator season.

MR. MARC DUPUY: Mr. Chairman, I don't know what kind of resolution it would take but certainly we wish to continue our great progress that has been made in the past and to work again toward another season.



THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Dupuy. Is there a second?

MR. AUTIN: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Autin. Is there any further discussion? (No response) Any objections? (No response) Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the  
resolution is here made a  
part of the record.)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has established an experimental alligator season to run from September 10, 1973 through September 28, 1973 in a portion of Cameron and Vermilion Parishes, and

WHEREAS, this alligator season has concluded with the taking of 2,916 alligators, and

WHEREAS, these skins were sold for a total of \$268,542.45 for an average price of \$13.13 per linear foot, and

WHEREAS, this short restricted season has demonstrated the tremendous economic value of this renewable resource to marsh landowners, and

WHEREAS, scientific data collected during the past two experimental seasons clearly indicates that an annual harvest can be carried out without adversely effecting the

overall population of alligators,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby go on record as favoring the wise management of alligators within the state through an annual harvest of surplus animals, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Commission diligently worked towards having the animal reclassified from the category "endangered" to "threatened or recovered" and moved to a less restrictive position on the International Trade Convention.

MR. JOE HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The first item we have on the agenda is a request from Dow Chemical Company through Service Right of Way Company to survey a proposed pipeline through our Sabine Island Wildlife Management Area and this survey will be through the lower portion. I would like to state that the land is owned by the State Land Office and leased to the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission for wildlife management purposes. At this time we have no objection to the survey going across the game management area. However, we would like to reserve the rights should the pipeline go across

to make any wildlife recommendations that we can on this land.

THE CHAIRMAN: What is your pleasure?

MR. MARC DUPUY: Gentlemen, I believe that the time is proper now to be sure that Dow Chemical Company is made well aware of the fact that if there are some, to be in the future, some objections or requirements or restrictions, that they should be notified now. In other words, not go ahead and spend money on a survey and then turn around and find out later that we would have some objections from a wildlife standpoint. I understand that this is property that is owned by Dow.

MR. HERRING: No, this property is owned by the State Land Office and leased to us for wildlife management purposes so if the State Land Office, if they are in agreement, we would work with them on their agreements as far as the crossing on it. We would make our recommendations pertaining to wildlife purposes. They would receive the monies and anything taken in from the oil companies should the pipeline go across.

MR. MARC DUPUY: What I'm getting at is if we can make our recommendations with regard to wildlife now and let them be forewarned. I think that would be the better procedure.

MR. JOE HERRING: Right.

THE CHAIRMAN: Would you make that in a form of a motion, Marc?

MR. MARC DUPUY: Yes, I will.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Dupuy.

MR. DON WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Dupuy. Seconded by Mr. Wille.

Any further discussion? (No response) Any objections?

(No response) Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the  
resolution is here made a  
part of the record.)

WHEREAS, Service Right of Way Company has requested permission to survey for a proposed pipe line route through our Sabine Island Wildlife Management Area, and

WHEREAS, this land is leased to the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission for 25 years from the State Land Office, and

WHEREAS, Dow Chemical Company is proposing a pipeline through this area, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that permission be granted to the Service Pipe Line Company to survey for the pipe line but before any work begins the pipe line company proposing to do the work will meet with personnel of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission to draw up plans so that

the pipe line will not damage our wildlife resources.

MR. JOE HERRING: Mr. Chairman, the next item we have pertains to the rabbit season that we had in Terrebonne Parish. After some reviews and checks on the rabbit population there that was originally closed, it was recommended to be opened and this was in the flooded area, that area effected by the flood, in Terrebonne Parish. The Commission was polled by telephone and approval was granted for the opening on October 6, 1973, with the rest of the State. The area that was closed and now opened for rabbit hunting is described as that area of Terrebonne Parish south of the Intercoastal Canal and what we are requesting is ratification of this opening.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

LLOYD AUTIN: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Autin. Is there a second?

DONALD WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Wille and if Mr. Doyle Berry were here I know he would like to make the motion himself.

Is there any discussion? (No response) Any objections? (No response) Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the  
resolution is here made a  
part of the record.)

WHEREAS, reviews and field checks have been made of  
the rabbit population in lower Terrebonne Parish, and

WHEREAS, this area described as closed to rabbit  
hunting south of the Intracoastal Canal in Terrebonne  
Parish, and

WHEREAS, it has been recommended that this area be  
open to rabbit hunting, and

WHEREAS, the Commission was polled by telephone and  
approved the opening, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the rabbit season be  
ratified as opening on October 6, 1973 in that area of  
Terrebonne Parish south of the Intracoastal Canal.

MR. JOE HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The next item we  
have pertains to the bids on our Saline and Spring Bayou Wild-  
life Management Area Headquarter complexes.

The Division of Administration has gone out on bids  
for the construction of these facilities and the bids will be  
opened today. In fact, they were supposed to have been opened  
this morning for the construction of all these flood replacements

of the Commission. We are hoping that the bids would be called in during this meeting. Should they not be called in, I would like to ask the Commission to give the authority to Director Angelle to accept the low bid provided it meets the approval of the architect and the Louisiana Division of Administration and Mr. Angelle's staff. As you know, it's very important that this work begin on these complexes as soon as possible because we have an April 1st, 1974, deadline for the completion because all the funds we are receiving on these will be 100% reimbursement from the Federal Government because of the flood damage and insurance so I would like to make this request of the Commission. We do have some insurance on our Saline headquarters complex.

MR. CLAY LUTTRELL: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Luttrell. Is there a second?

MR. MARC DUPUY: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Dupuy. Is there any further discussion? (No response) Any objections? (No response) Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the  
resolution is here made a  
part of the record.)

WHEREAS, bids have been received on the Spring Bayou and Saline Wildlife Management Area complexes, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Edgar M. Williams, Alexandria, Louisiana, was the low bidder in the amount of \$146,000 for the

Spring Bayou complex, and

WHEREAS, Friedman Construction, Natchitoches, Louisiana, was the low bidder on the Saline Wildlife Management Area complex in the amount of \$137,000, and

WHEREAS, these are reliable contractors and meet with the approval of Mr. William Baker, architect for the construction and Commission personnel, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the contracts for these complexes be awarded to: Mr. Edgar M. Williams for Spring Bayou Wildlife Management Area in the amount of \$146,000 and Friedman Construction for the Saline Wildlife Management Area complex in the amount of \$137,000.

MR. JOE HERRING: Mr. Chairman, the next item we have goes into several parishes here pertaining to some requested changes in the deer season. I'll take those one at a time. The first one comes from Union Parish. Union Parish Police Jury has recommended that we do cut back on some of the areas that we had planned a doe season in that area. They had originally recommended that the old Wards 5 and 10 in that parish be opened to any sex season. However, drawing the boundaries around to come in to these wards we did include small portions



of Wards 3 and 5 and they have requested that we delete this 3 and 5 and have only the doe seasons in Wards 4 and 10. I recommend to the Commission at this time that we keep the seasons in that Parish as previously set.

THE CHAIRMAN: Joe, is that a request that we considered when we drafted up our proposals?

MR. JOE HERRING: Yes, sir. It is. This was one that--

THE CHAIRMAN: Something new?

MR. JOE HERRING: No, sir. They had recommended this when we were coming to our seasons setting and for boundary purposes we did go ahead and include those Wards in there to make it easier to know where the hunters were.

THE CHAIRMAN: As Vic Smith said, you had to early input.

MR. HERRING: We had input. (laughter)

You want to take them one at a time or all of them.

THE CHAIRMAN: How do you all want to have them.

Let's go on to the next one. We'll take them all.

Is there anyone here in the audience that wants to talk about the deer seasons other than Joe Herring? I don't think there is.

MR. HERRING: Got to have some talk about it. What I'd like to say on that is that the doe season will be for the first

day of the second dog season which will be November 23rd.

The next request we have is from Winn Parish Police Jury. We had recommended a one-day any sex season which would be the first day of the second dog season which would be November 23rd in that parish. Now this doe season kind of blankets in several different parishes in that area so we would have not just a doe season in one parish but in about 8 adjoining parishes. The Winn Parish Police Jury had requested by resolution that the Commission delete its one day any sex season in that parish. I would also recommend to the Commission that we keep the any sex season as set.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is that a new recommendation? Or, is that one that was made previously?

MR. HERRING: Winn Parish has never recommended a doe season. This year or in previous years. No, sir.

The next one we have is from Jackson Parish Police Jury. At present we have all of Jackson Parish open for doe season which would be the first day of the second dog season, November 23rd. We have received a resolution from the Jackson Parish Police Jury. They are requesting only Districts 2, 3 and 4 in Jackson Parish be closed to doe deer hunting for 1973-74 season. (They refer to them as districts rather than wards) I still recommend to this that we have the whole parish open as previously set.

THE CHAIRMAN: In Winn Parish did you have doe hunting previously?

MR. HERRING: Yes, sir. Did you say did we recommend it?

THE CHAIRMAN: No. Did we have it last year?

MR. HERRING: No, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN: Either sex? In Winn Parish?

MR. HERRING: No, sir. This is one where we had all the parishes up there blanketed. They had veto power up until we had this last ruling.

THE CHAIRMAN: How much of the parish do they want closed?

MR. HERRING: They want the whole parish closed again.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is that what they are requesting?

MR. HERRING: Yes, sir.

The next one is from an area in West Feliciana Parish. It is a little bit different from these others. They are requesting a doe season to go along with some adjoining areas and they are requesting a doe season on the first of each split. That will be November 23rd and December 26th. This area would be described--the boundaries would be Louisiana-Mississippi State Line on the north, U. S. Highway 61 on the east, Thompson Creek on the south, thereby tying this in either sex season already established, Devil's Swamp area

from Thompson Creek south to Baton Rouge barge canal. I would recommend to the Commission that we go along with this request. The reason is that we would be more liberal in our season. We have checked this area out and we find no reason for not having a doe season in here. We have always tried to be as liberal as we could and give more areas open to hunting to try to disperse the hunters out and not all get them congregated into a few areas where we would have doe seasons so any area that we would find where we could find where we could have a doe season and not hurt the deer population we would recommend to go along with this rather than coming back and trying to restrict or cut some out. However, we felt like in some areas there should be restrictions we would certainly recommend that, too. As long as we can open more areas, we will have more hunters dispersed out. We would recommend that we go along with that request.

THE CHAIRMAN: Joe, we made a mistake. We should have first set 3 days for Winn Parish and compromised at one and got what you wanted. They would have been happy.

MR. HERRING: Well, it's not that, Mr. Chairman. I would like to say that we have 64 parishes, and we do receive prior to setting the seasons requests from all of these parishes and practically all the parishes are different. Very seldom do you

have even two parishes recommend the same dates or the same seasons or any sex seasons and we come in and try to consolidate many of these parishes and since some of these requests were made earlier not to have doe seasons, some of them even made on different days as far as the seasons, so it's up to us to try to combine this Area 1, 2, 3 & 4 and make larger areas because if we didn't we would have a season separate in each parish. It would be kind of hard to say you have 3 days, you have 4 days, and you have 1. We do try to consolidate these things and get them as uniform throughout the state as possible. In the last few years I think we have made a lot of progress in doing this because we have even cut the number of areas down in the state. We used to have about 16 areas. We have about 10 now and the whole goal is just to have three or four areas one of these days. We hope we can do that rather than have different seasons in all of them.

THE CHAIRMAN: I was going to put the monkey on the Deer Committee's back but the Chairman is away on business. He is not here today so I don't see how we can do anything.

MR. HERRING: Well, put the monkey on my back.

THE CHAIRMAN: We don't need to put it on anybody's back. OK. You have heard Joe's recommendation.

MR. HERRING: We have one more. That was one in Terrebonne Parish. The area that we had closed for five years down in Terrebonne Parish after a restocking program on deer and alligators, we did recommend opening this year for 19 days and the area was opened. Now, when it was closed we had the boundary on that from the Intracoastal Canal south and in setting our seasons this year we did raise that boundary from Intracoastal Canal to Highway 90 which in the past these people between that area had longer seasons so what we actually did in making this recommendation, we cut these people's season short between the Intracoastal Canal and Highway 90. I would like to recommend to the Commission that we do raise this boundary, or lower this boundary rather, from Highway 90 down to the Intracoastal Canal to give this area of the State 40 days instead of the 19 days as set. I think this will still go in with liberalization rather than trying to restrict or cut back these people and give--this is not a very large area in there but it would give a little bit of area in there that would have a little bit more hunting in. That's all of them now, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, what do you want to do?

MR. MARC DUPUY: Mr. Chairman, may I make a comment before we take any action. I think there are always some pros and cons

about every position. It's my personal feeling that it is bad for us to change and continue to change from time to time decisions that we have taken with regard to fixing of seasons. At the same time, it might be equally bad to be adamant about taking a position and being inflexible and unwilling to listen to elected officials and others, police juries representing sportsmen in other areas. After all, they are elected public officials and they do in fact represent the sportsmen as well as we do. Now, we have varied from our inflexible position in the past. We have changed the rabbit season and we have changed deer seasons for some parishes. I would reluctantly move that this time we grant the request of these several police juries and make it clear in so doing that we intend next year to put a cut off date after which and the cut off date could be the day on which the bulletin needs to go to the press for publication that after that there will be no changes whatsoever. We, I think, had that intention in the beginning this year but we simply didn't stand by it and having taken the position in the past that we could vary I think it would be rather inconsistent if we didn't give some consideration to these requests this time so I think with that view in mind I would recommend that we grant the request and then take a firm position in the future with regard to cut off date.

MR. CLAY LUTTRELL: I would like to comment on that, Jerry.

THE CHAIRMAN: He made a motion. Do we have a second to that?

MR. LUTTRELL: I'll second it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Luttrell.

MR. LUTTRELL: I want to make a comment.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.

MR. LUTTRELL: I noticed that-- I'd like to propose a change just a little bit there. Marc said that we would have absolutely no change after the season and condition were set. I don't think we should tie our biologists or the Commission to an absolute no change. Now, it may be that if an emergency arises that the Commission itself or the biologists deem necessary to make a change, that change would be made within the bounds of the Commission but I heartily agree with him on this business of giving those people warning ahead of time and also give them the benefit of our thinking maybe before the meeting in July in Alexandria so that they can have the time to protest or suggest changes that we could consider when we bring this up. Now there have been so many changes, I don't know just where I am going to hunt and what's going to be open. Could I change, do you agree to change that there would be no changes except those initiated by the Commission or the employees?



THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, sir.

MR. HERRING: Gentlemen, a lot of these areas that were changed were areas that we did reserve because of flood. At the last meeting, the ones that were changed were here as we came back even the two areas were suggesting the changes here today were areas affected by the flood and the herds were effected, so really your changes this year have been a little normal from the past because these have all been in every case except possibly East Carroll have been flood areas. It was too, actually. East Carroll was a flood area, too, from the Mississippi River. The flood had a lot to do with the changes this year.

THE CHAIRMAN: Joe, let me dig at you a little minute. You know every time we get a change that we want to make, we never mention about that old bulletin, it doesn't bother him. But, when it's one that somebody else asks us we always--the first thing we say, "Oh, man, we are going to mess up our bulletin. Nobody will know where to hunt." Don't you find us doing that? We like to use that excuse on those that we don't like but those that we like we never mention that. For example, down there in Terrebonne Parish we are going to change those boundaries in that bulletin. We don't hesitate to do that.

MR. HERRING: Well, I don't think we referred to the bulletin, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: That's what I said, we didn't refer to it. I'm guilty of it just as you are. Let's don't use that excuse.

MR. HERRING: We didn't refer to it either way.

THE CHAIRMAN: To me, it's a matter of you want to do the right thing and if it is right to do it, we ought to do it. If it's wrong to do it, you don't do it.

MR. JOE HERRING: I think the general feeling is we would be more liberal and not hurt the game population. After all, we have to look at the game populations first and the hunter second. We always want some game there to hunt because then the hunters are going to take care of us and take care of them, too, so we have to look after game populations first.

THE CHAIRMAN: Let me ask you something. Apparently, the Commission, I just assume, will pass the motion but how are you going to handle the situation in Winn Parish next year now. We are going to have the same problem we had last year but we had veto power sitting over our head, we don't have now. How are you going to handle it this coming year. They are going to ask you the same thing next year and you are going to want to hunt doe deer in Winn Parish. How are we going to handle it next year so we don't have this same problem. Assuming the Legislature don't do anything.

MR. JOE HERRING: I would assume, Mr. Chairman, we have been recommending a doe season in Winn Parish for a number of years to join in a lot of other parishes where we can have a one day season and I really don't know in a year what the population will be but I assume from the past we will recommend a doe season again next year.

THE CHAIRMAN: Did you meet with the Winn Parish Police Jury this year?

MR. HERRING: No, our field personnel did.

THE CHAIRMAN: They did?

MR. HERRING: Yes, sir. Usually the district offices will meet with the police juries rather than some of us but we try to-- If the police juries want them to, we usually try to get around within the two months prior to the coming up season setting and our personnel try to make all the police juries. Sometimes they do not make all of them because of conflicting dates but they do try to make all the police juries in their districts.

MR. CLAY LUTTRELL: Joe, why do a number of people in my area go to Winn Parish to hunt deer because they say they are more plentiful and they have better hunting success. Now, if Winn Parish has never had a doe season and the idea prevails that they have better hunting success, we are going to have some problems unless we make a study of having a doe season up there next year.

MR. HERRING: Mr. Luttrell, in some cases in Winn Parish we do have browse problems, that is, good adequate food. Not only the deer competing for food up there, but we have a lot of free-ranging stock up there, hogs and cows, that is permissible in that parish and where we have these, we have a cow taking the place of 4 or 5 deer in there so we do have some competition for food. There is a good deer population there but it does stand in a lot of these areas when we recommend a doe season, we are trying to look into the future. It's really not feasible to wait until you have a browse shortage or wait until your deer are in jeopardy and then come up with a doe season. You always like to recommend your doe season prior to anything happens to your vegetation so our field personnel are looking after this and they have recommended doe seasons. A lot of time, much in advance of what the sportsmen themselves would like or what some of the local governing bodies but this is looking after the wildlife resources of that parish and that's what we are for.

THE CHAIRMAN: One thing you have got to remember, Joe. You don't have to convince us. You need to go convince Winn Parish.

MR. CLAY LUTTRELL: Correct.

THE CHAIRMAN: You don't have to convince us. We know you are always right.

MR. JOE HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: I'm serious though because now they don't have the voto power any more and we need to convince them.

MR. HERRING: We will spend much more time trying on those parishes where we are going to have come up this next year.

MR. CLAY LUTTRELL: I want to put Joe on the spot. He borrowed some deer from Saline Game Management Area and they would be brought back, especially one of them. A special deer and I would like for him to tell me now where those deer are.

MR. HERRING: Unfortunately, Mr. Chairman, those deer, some of them didn't die at L. S. U. That's where we carried them to. After we got them down, had them in enclosures, some of them did die and were very leary of bringing some of these deer back to Saline right now until we do get checked out with the research personnel there at the University. These deer possibly caused other problems with the University in bringing them in and putting them in those pens, bringing in something else on their land there that we were unaware of and so the deer that are left are still there and we are not taking them back to Saline and we have not cleared them out of the L. S. U. pens yet.

MR. CLAY LUTTRELL: Well, I was just wondering if we had an excess of doe in Winn Parish or somewhere that maybe we could

trade for some of Winn Parish's doe. Maybe you could pay us back with them.

THE CHAIRMAN: Doe's are quarantined, aren't they?

MR. JOE HERRING: We have them in quarantine, the University has, so we haven't done anything with the deer yet.

MR. CLAY LUTTRELL: We'll trade them to you.

THE CHAIRMAN: OK. Is there any other discussion on this motion? Don, do you have something you want to say?

MR. DON WILLE: Yes, I did but I have changed my mind.

THE CHAIRMAN: All those in favor of the motion, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: All opposed, say no. (no response)

So carried.

(Text of the Resolution is  
here made a part of the  
record.)

WHEREAS the Union Parish Police Jury has requested that only Wards 4 and 10 be open for any sex deer season in that parish, and

WHEREAS the Winn Parish Police Jury has requested that Winn Parish be closed to any sex deer season during the 1973-74 season, and

WHEREAS the Jackson Parish Police Jury has requested that Districts 2, 3 and 4 of that parish be excluded from the any sex deer season, and

WHEREAS Highway 66 Hunting Club has requested that an area be open for any sex deer hunting on November 23 and December 26, 1973, described as follows: The boundaries of which should be the Louisiana-Mississippi State Line on the north, U. S. Highway 61 on the east, and Thompson's Creek on the south, and

WHEREAS the Black Bayou Hunting Club, Inc. has requested a boundary change for Terrebonne Parish including all lands in Terrebonne Parish north of the Intracoastal Canal be included in Area 1 and all lands south of the Intracoastal Canal be included in area 10 for the 1973-74 deer season, now

~~THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED~~ that all of these requests be granted.

THE CHAIRMAN: We have granted all the requests. The requests by the Police Juries and the one made by Joe.

MR. JOE HERRING: OK. All requests are granted then. There are three police juries and we are in favor of the police juries. The other two then will go with the increase in the season up there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The next item we had is a regular lease renewal forms from Continental Can Corporation. It is just a lease renewal for 158 acres of land which lies in our Sabine Wildlife

Management Area. This lease is for a 10 year period and it is a general type that we have on all of our wildlife management areas. It just so happens that we have a piece of land in that Sabine Wildlife Management Area that does belong to Continental Can. The dates are different for renewal on some of the other land areas and I would just like to recommend to the Commission that we accept this 10 year lease renewal as part of our Sabine Wildlife Management Area.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. DON WILLE: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Wille. Is there a second?

MR. LLOYD AUTIN: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been seconded by Mr. Autin. Any further discussion? (No response) Any objection? (No response)  
Hearing none, so ordered.

(Text of the Resolution is  
here made a part of the record)

WHEREAS the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has received from Continental Can, Incorporated, lease forms for 10 years renewal of their land in Sabine Wildlife Management Area, and



WHEREAS this lease renewal consists of 158 acres of land, and

WHEREAS this lease is the same general type received by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission for lands leased as wildlife management areas, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission accept the renewal lease from Continental Can Incorporated for the 158 acres of land for a 10 year period for wildlife management purposes.

MR. JOE HERRING: Mr. Chairman, the next item pertains to Three Rivers Wildlife Management Area. Mr. Angelle and Mr. Yancey met with the State Highway Department after the bids were received for 1.3 miles of road to be constructed on the Three Rivers Wildlife Management Area. The bids received were from Donald G. Lambert Construction Company, a total of \$53,897.30; one from Morrison Engineering and Construction Company, Inc., for \$51,745.86; and a third bid from K.C.F. Corporation for \$45,549.92. The Highway Department was advised to go ahead and award the contract to the low bidder which was K.C.F. Corporation in the amount of \$43,549.92, with a contingency fund of 2% for a total of \$44,420.91. It is very important that this work start immediately due to the weather conditions and trying to provide access to the hunters into our Three Rivers Wildlife Management

Area. I would like to request the Commission at this time that we ratify these bids as were received.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. DON WILLE: Ratify it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Motion by Mr. Wille. Is there a second?

MR. LLOYD AUTIN: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Autin. Any further discussion?

(No response) Any objections? (No response) Hearing none, so ordered.

(Text of the Resolution is  
here made a part of the record)

WHEREAS Mr. Angelle and Mr. Yancey met with the State Highway Department after bids were received for the 1.300 miles of road to be constructed on our Three Rivers Wildlife Management Area, and

WHEREAS the K.C.F. Corporation was the low bidder in the amount of \$43,549.92, with a contingency fund of 2% for a total of \$44,420.91, and

WHEREAS it was important that this work begin immediately due to weather and trying to provide access to hunters and fishermen, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission ratify their action in approving this contract so that the contractor could start work immediately.

MR. JOE HERRING: Mr. Chairman, the next item on the agenda is the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has requested the Louisiana Department of Public Works to prepare plans, specifications and go out on bids for the repairs needed on the Fort Pike Boat Ramp in Orleans Parish. The Department of Public Works is presently out on bids for this work and the bids will not be opened until October 29, 1973, at 2:30 P. M. Rather than hold this work up for another month, we would like to ask the Commission to give Director Angelle the authority to approve the low bid, provided it meets the approval of the Louisiana Department of Public Works and Mr. Angelle's staff. The Department of Public Works has estimated the repairs on this to be a little over \$3,000.00.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. DON WILLE: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Wille. Is there a second?

MR. LLOYD AUTIN: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been seconded by Mr. Autin. Any further discussion? (No response) Any objection? (No response) Hearing none, so ordered.

(Text of the Resolution is  
here made a part of the  
record)

WHEREAS the Louisiana Department of Public Works is out on bids for the repairs needed on the Fort Pike Boat Ramp in Orleans Parish, and

WHEREAS these bids will not be opened until October 29, 1973, and

WHEREAS it is important due to weather conditions that work begin as soon as possible on this boat ramp, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission give Director J. Burton Angelle the authority to approve the low bidder, provided it meets the approval of the Louisiana Department of Public Works and Mr. Angelle's staff.

MR. JOE HERRING: The next item, Mr. Chairman, pertains to a timber sale on our Bodcau Wildlife Management Area. The personnel of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission marked 799 acres of timber on Bodcau Wildlife Management Area for a timber sale and this timber is mostly pine, the majority being pulpwood

and some saw logs. However, there was some sweet gum, elm and post oaks worked in for the sale.

The Louisiana Division of Administration went out on bids to sell this timber. Bids have been received and Anthony Forest Products Company of Springhill, Louisiana, was the high bidder in the amount of \$51,255.55. We have set a price on that earlier with the foresters up there that we should not take under \$44,000.00, so we did get a good bid on that. As you know, this land is owned by the U. S. Corps of Engineers and leased to the State for wildlife management purposes. All funds that are received from timber sales on this area are to be spent back on the Bodcau area and this is to maintain the management program we have on there, to pay our personnel salaries and our green tree reservoir that we have constructed, road work, fencing, and various things like that so it has been a self-supporting area that we have so I recommend to the Commission at this time that we accept the bid of \$51,255.55 from Anthony Forest Products Company. Now, yesterday someone did ask about the board feet-- everything that we had. I do have that if you would be interested in looking at the number of trees marked and the board feet in each species we do have that available now.

MR. CLAY LUTTRELL: Yes, I would like to get that.

MR. JOE HERRING: I recommend that we accept this bid, Mr. Chairman.

MR. DON WILLE: I make a motion that we accept the bid for Bodcau.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Wille. Is there a second?

MR. CLAY LUTTRELL: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Luttrell. Is there any further discussion? (No Response) Any objection? (No response) Hearing none, so ordered.

(Text of the Resolution is here  
made a part of the record.)

WHEREAS personnel of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has worked 799 acres of timber on our Bodcau Wildlife Management Area for timber sale, and

WHEREAS the State Division of Administration has received bids for this timber in the amount of \$51,255.55 from Anthony Forest Products Company, Springhill, Louisiana, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission approve the bid from Anthony Forest Products Company, Springhill, Louisiana in the amount of \$51,255.55.

THE CHAIRMAN: While you were there, Joe, we got the bids on the Saline and Spring Bayou. The low bid on Saline was Friedman Construction Company of Natchitoches--\$137,900.00. The next bid was \$149,900.00 and the next one was \$155,000.00 and Mr. Baker, the Architect, recommended that we award the low bid of \$137,900.00 on Spring Bayou, the low bid was Edgar Williams of Alexandria. He was the one that built it when it was originally built for \$146,000.00. The next bid was \$153,000 and the next bid was \$166,750.00 and Mr. Baker also recommends that we award the low bid of \$146,000.00 to Mr. Williams. If the Board desires to award those two bids, we will entertain the motion.

CLAY LUTTRELL: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Luttrell. Is there a second?

MARC DUPUY, JR.: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Dupuy. Is there any further discussion? (No response) Any objections? (No response) Hearing none, so ordered.

Thank you, Joe.

MR. DON WILLE: Who were the two low companies that bid on that, Jerry?

THE CHAIRMAN: Friedman Construction Company with the low bid on Saline and the low bid on Spring Bayou was Edgar M. Williams, Alexandria.

MR. MIKE HOGAN: Mr. Chairman, Members of the Commission, I want to compliment you on your jackets. I think you have good taste.

The Commission has in storage some 800 alligator skins that were confiscated. They are illegal skins--illegally taken skins. They were confiscated over the years and they are in cold storage. The cold storage has been running us about \$300.00 a month. We decided to put these things up for bid through the Division of Administration. The Division of Administration went out on bids. The bids will be opened on October 30th. Assuming that the high bidder would like to get these hides as soon as possible after the bidding and, of course, we would like to get rid of them and also get rid of that storage charge. We would like to ask the board to consider giving the Director the authority to accept the high bid if it is in order along with the concurrence of the Division of Administration when these bids are opened.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. LLOYD AUTIN: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Autin.

MR. DON WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been seconded by Mr. Wille. Is there any further discussion? (No response) Any objections? (No response) Hearing none, so ordered.



MR. KENNETH SMITH: Mr. Chairman, Members of the Commission, on October 15th the date the drawdown was to begin on Lake Bistineau, there have been five days of continuous heavy rainfall in the Dorcheat-Red River Watershed. Now Dorcheat is the river or Bayou that runs into Lake Bistineau and Red River backs into Lake Bistineau from below the dam up by Loggy Bayou. Now due to this heavy rainfall and due to the probability of damage to agriculture below the gates and to the Loggy Bayou headquarters, if the gates had been opened on that date, we decided not to begin the drawdown on this date and this appeared to be a wise move. It probably would have caused damage. In view of the situation in that area, it would be advisable to inform this body of the situation up here and ask for a final, we hope, determination on whether the drawdown should begin now. The water levels are down to a safe point where it would not cause any flooding. We would like to ask once again that you provide us direction as to whether the drawdown is to begin.

THE CHAIRMAN: Well, you know I have one question now. What direction is that--up or down? (laughter)

MR. KENNETH SMITH: Well, this would --

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Luttrell has something to say.

MR. CLAY LUTTRELL: Knowing the situation up there first hand and to get our biologists off the hook, I would recommend that we

reconsider and not have the drawdown at all this year.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Luttrell that we discontinue the plans for the drawdown on Lake Bistineau this year.

MR. DON WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Wille. Is there any further discussion?

MR. DON WILLE: Yes, the thing I would like to say right now is that we do have some money to spend on Lake Bistineau and this will not effect the monies that will be going into Bistineau. Kenneth and I discussed this. We could use it to do some new channel marking up there and perhaps prevent some of these people running into stumps because of the fact that we do have poor channel markings. General clean-up of the lake and it won't effect our boat ramp construction up there. Is that right, Kenneth?

MR. KENNETH SMITH: Yes.

MR. DON WILLE: Kenneth feels also and I want to say this that Kenneth and I feel that at this late date it wouldn't do us any good to draw it down.

THE CHAIRMAN: You got out of that one, Kenneth.

Is there any further discussion on this.

MR. MARC DUPUY: I would like to make a comment. My position

has been consistently in favor of a drawdown because I think that is a sound biological way to improve the lake and we have consistently supported the position of Mr. Kenneth Smith in that regard. I will vote for a no drawdown this year because of the reasons stated that I don't think will become a practical matter and accomplish the good that it was intended to accomplish when we first set the drawdown back in August and then changed it a little bit later in September but my position will be the same again next year with regard to drawdown.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any further discussion? (No response) All those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: All opposed, no. (No response) It carries.

Thank you, Kenneth.

(Text of the resolution is  
here made a part of the  
record.)

WHEREAS excessive rainfall in Bayou Dorcheat and Red River watersheds had caused near flood conditions below the Lake Bistineau gates due to 5 continuous days of rain prior to October 16, and

WHEREAS the opening of the gates on Lake Bistineau would have in all probability caused flood damage to agricultural areas and the Loggy Bayou Headquarters, thereby

precluding the beginning of the drawdown which was scheduled for October 16, and

WHEREAS these waters had not receded until October 23, a date which is considered too late to begin an effective drawdown of this water body, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that due to the apparent lack of any benefit being derived from such a drawdown, the water control structure will not be opened this year except for unexpected emergencies.

THE CHAIRMAN: Under other business, we have discussion of the November meeting. We received a request from Mr. Jimmie Thompson, Member of the Commission, who is away on business. He would like for us to change the meeting date since it falls right after Thanksgiving. It probably is going to be a conflict with the deer season to the dates November 19th and 20th. I'm just joking about blaming it on Jimmie but he did write us a letter. Is it your feeling that we should change the meeting to November 19th and 20th?

MR. DON WILLE: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Wille. Seconded by Mr. Luttrell. Is there any further discussion? (No response) Any objections? (No response) Hearing none, so ordered.

THE CHAIRMAN: What is your pleasure about the December meeting?

Do you want to hold it the week before Christmas which would be the 17th and 18th? Is that all right? Do I hear a motion that we do that?

MR. LLOYD AUTIN: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Autin. Is there a second?

MR. DON WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been seconded by Mr. Wille. Any further discussion? (No response) Any objections? (No response)  
Hearing none, so ordered.

Burt?

MR. J. BURTON ANGELLE: I think our Attorney may have a presentation to the Board concerning Grand Terre.

MR. GERALD MARTINEZ: Mr. Chairman, Members of the Board, the Commission is interested in acquiring the-- The Commission owns part of Grand Terre and they are interested in acquiring additional or the remainder of the Island which is owned by a number of people. The Commission purchased the title bond and this is the binder. There are some monumental title problems in acquiring the property and actually at this time I would like some instructions from the Commission about proceeding to acquire the property in view of the monumental title problems involved. It will take a considerable amount of time and energy to straighten out these title problems. The procedure is not quite definite as yet because I haven't really determined yet whether it would

be better to proceed on a conventional basis to acquire the interests. I don't even know if that's feasible at this time.

A condemnation proceeding would be somewhat involved or extremely involved. To give you an idea there, according to the abstractor there are approximately 300% interest being claimed in this property. In other words, people involved are claiming over 300% interest in the property. This is the list of the owners claiming interest in the property. I suspect it will take one attorney full time, working full time, at least a year and a half or better to straighten out this title problem.

THE CHAIRMAN: How much land are we attempting to acquire? Are we negotiating with these people? This is all new to me.

MR. GERALD MARTINEZ: Well, first of all, we contacted some people that we thought owned an interest in it. Back around 1901 there was a settlement made involving the property and 25 people acquired interest in it. Since that time there have been tax sales, sales of the property, all of which resulted in ownership claims by some 300 people claiming interest in the undivided tract. The abstractor who did the abstract said that in his opinion this is the worst title problem in the Parish of Jefferson which has some bad title situations as it is and this one is among the worst. To give you some example there, people claiming 1/30th of, well, there is one individual claiming 1/2,400th

interest in the property. That's how divided it becomes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Let me make a suggestion. Let's table the matter until next month. With all those problems, I'm not too sure that it is going to be wise for the State to get into the business of owning the property. No. 1 we are going to get back to the question of do we really have any public use for it, if that's what it's going to cost us to get the property.

MR. GERALD MARTINEZ: Well, there are a lot of considerations and I agree with your suggestion that we table it. We really have to investigate whether or not some of these interests can be bought out for a nominal sum. If the people involved who really have very small interest, they are going to stick to their claim for a larger interest. It may not be feasible to get involved in it because, for example, some people are claiming 1/25th interest when what they own is 1/30th over 1/25th interest so, you know-- Well, if we could get it for 1/30th over 1/25th, yes, but they are claiming 1/25th and they are going to stick to it and we are going to have to go into condemnation proceedings. A condemnation trial in this matter, it's hard to estimate how long it would be because you are talking about, first of all, if everybody is represented you are talking about 300 attorneys.

THE CHAIRMAN: Jerry, why not on November 19th that you, Marc and I get together on the legal problems that are involved.

MR. GERALD MARTINEZ: I think that would be a good idea.

THE CHAIRMAN: Dr. St. Amant and Harry Schafer can talk about it some more.

MR. J. BURTON ANGELLE: We have legislative authority on that, don't we, Doc? Money has been appropriated. The Commission in the past has given you that authority to go ahead and buy this property. Has this been brought to the Commission?

THE CHAIRMAN: Well, if it is all right with everybody, let's just table the matter until we look into it. We'll meet with Jerry on the 19th.

MR. GERALD MARTINEZ: All right. Thank you, Gentlemen.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do we have any other business? Yes, sir. Sure. Come on up to the microphone.

MR. RICHARD STANEK: My name is Dick Stanek. I'm Director of the Louisiana Wildlife Federation and I am kind of new at these meetings, so I hope that what I am going to say is not out of order but I would like to bring to the attention of the Board, if they are not aware of this fact, that a couple of weeks ago Governor Edwards signed a proclamation which was sponsored by the Friends of Animals and this proclamation called for an "Animal Liberation Day" and I'm sure that all of you are familiar with the Friends of Animals. This is a group that is dedicated by their goals to destroy the hunter and fisherman and, in fact,



one of the leaders of this organization has stated that the greatest pleasure that she gets out of life is after the hunting season is over of reading the reports of how many people, how many hunters have been crippled and killed. This was brought to my attention by an article by Mike Cook in the Baton Rouge paper last Thursday so I would like to ask the Board to possibly ask the Governor in future times to use a little bit more discretion when he does make some of these proclamations. Approximately 3 or 4 weeks before he did make this proclamation for an "Animal Liberation Day" he put out a proclamation proclaiming "National Hunting and Fishing Day" and it just seems like an utter contradiction of 3 weeks earlier saying he is for the hunter and the fisherman and going right back again and going in favor of some positions favored by this kind of organization so I would just like to bring this to the attention of those who haven't heard about this.

THE CHAIRMAN: We are aware, I became aware of it with a copy of a letter that was sent to Governor Edwards by a fur dealer in Louisiana, Mr. Butler Mahler, where he explained the problem. I think our Commission has previously--for example, on the question of the use of traps in catching animals, we expressed our position clearly in the past on numerous occasions that we are opposed to all the legislation that is proposed in the

Congress to do away with the steel jaw trap. We have asked our people to apprise the Governor's Office of our position on the matter. I don't think it's something to get in a fuss with him about but we just want to bring the matter to his attention just like you brought it to us and I appreciate it. I think it probably will be resolved. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any other business to come before the Commission?

MR. J. BURTON ANGELLE: I would just like to make an announcement, Mr. Chairman. We will have a Chief's Meeting, Assistant Directors and Executive Assistants, Fiscal Officer and the Personnel Officer, starting at 1:00 P.M. in the Oyster Division Meeting Room. We will meet at 1:00 P.M. instead of tomorrow morning as planned.

THE CHAIRMAN: O.K., thank you. If there is no other business, we stand adjourned.

. . . Thereupon, at 12:30 o'clock p.m., Tuesday, October 23, 1973, the regular monthly meeting of the Board of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission was adjourned . . .